

OBITUARY

ANN GOODALE (1937-2007)

Ann Goodale was born Ann Thornton on 23 March 1937 in Clevedon (near Bristol) in England. She was the third of five siblings and has an older sister Betty and brother John, and a younger brother and sister Alan and Janet who are twins.

Ann's father was a doctor and the family migrated to Australia for a new life after the Second World War. They moved first to Sydney and soon after to Western Australia where the family spent their first year in Mount Magnet before moving to Lesmurdie, Perth and then Fremantle.

Ann never went to school. She was taught at home by her

mother and was involved in a family theatre group the "Mayflower Troup". She later worked in family shops in Fremantle. As a young woman Ann put herself through university, achieving a double major in Literature and Ancient Greece at the University of Western Australia. Ann's first day in school was as an English teacher and she taught at various high schools including Geraldton, City Beach, Kwinana and Rockingham Senior High with the last ten years of her career as Senior Mistress.

Ann's enthusiasm, friendliness and knowledge attracted people. She was not raised in a religious



Ann on holiday at Berry Farm cafe, with Willie Wagtail.



Ann radio tracking Little Penguin, Warnbro Sound.

family, but as an adult chose the Christian faith and the Anglican Church. She especially loved singing hymns at St George's in Safety Bay.

Ann was married to Bob Goodale on 30 November 1973 at Palmyra and lived since then at their home in Arcadia Drive Safety Bay. Ann and Bob formed a film and photography company ACE Films (Australasian Animal Conservation and Environment Films). Together they made many award winning wildlife documentaries and won many awards. Ann wrote numerous children's books, illustrated with Bob's photos. Together they wrote hundreds of newspaper and popular magazine articles on environment issues.

Twenty seven years ago Ann and Bob purchased 100 acres of native bush, "Goodale Sanctuary", at Coolup near Pinjarra. There they shared many wonderful times with native flora and fauna including rare and endangered orchids, more than 100 species of birds, bandicoots and possums. Many Naturalist Club "camp outs" were held there as well as excursions by other societies and clubs. Ann was elected an honorary life member of the WA Naturalists' Club in 1999 for her outstanding commitment and dedicated



Ann with Brahminy Kite, Raptor Centre, Margaret River.

work for conservation. Remnant bush seminars and research on bush management resulted in a Greening W. A. award being granted for their reserve in 1995.

When Ann retired from teaching 10 years ago Ann and Bob's shared passion for the environment was expressed in the development of the multi award winning Naragebup Rockingham Regional Environment Centre, a special community-owned and run, educational asset in Rockingham.

Although Ann suffered from a life-long lung disease she was physically active, enjoying abseiling, canoeing, caving and camping. Her artistic nature was expressed in her love of theatre and appreciation of beautiful music. She read books every day,

often three books at a time and had her own library of thousands of pre-loved books. Breathing was difficult for her during the last twelve months, but she faced life and death with courage.

During her final days Ann said she was at peace with God and loved everybody. She was able to say goodbye to friends and family and passed into eternity in the early hours of Sunday morning, 19 August 2007, aged 70 years and 4 months.

Ann Goodale lived a very fruitful life and will be sadly missed by her husband, grandchildren, family, and friends and by the conservation movement.

– Rev. BOB HOSKEN and BOB GOODALE